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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY PRESENTING SCORE AND COURIER COMMUNICATIONS SATELLITES  
TO SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION AT OPENING OF NEW "HALL OF ELECTRICITY"

The Department of the Army will present SCORE and COURIER satellites to the Smithsonian Institution on July 7 to become a permanent part of a special exhibit on communications satellites. A presentation ceremony will mark the official opening of the Hall of Electricity in the Smithsonian's new Museum of History and Technology.

The Honorable Willis M. Hawkins, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research and Development, will make the presentation on behalf of the Honorable Stephen Ailes, Secretary of the Army. Accepting this latest addition to the Smithsonian's world-famous exhibits depicting all phases of our Nation's history will be Mr. James C. Bradley, Assistant Secretary of the Smithsonian Institution.

Major General David P. Gibbs, the Department of the Army's Chief of Communications-Electronics, also will give a brief address regarding the role of the U. S. Army Signal Corps in the development of these pioneer satellites. General Gibbs was Chief Signal Officer, U. S. Army, from July 1963 until a recent title redesignation.

Both SCORE and COURIER satellites were developed by the Signal Corps at Fort Monmouth, N.J., by what is now the Electronics Laboratories of the U. S. Army Electronics Command, a major element in the Army Materiel Command.

Major industry participants in the SCORE (1958) and COURIER (1960) projects were the Radio Corporation of America and Philco Corporation, respectively.

Distinguished guests expected to attend the ceremony include members of Congress, high-ranking military and civilian personnel from the Department of Defense and Department of the Army, and industry leaders, as well as government and industry scientists who participated in the development of both satellites.

The SCORE satellite (Signal Communications by Orbiting Relay Equipment), launched into orbit on December 18, 1958, demonstrated for the first time that voice, teletypewriter, and multiple teletypewriter signals could be received, stored, and retransmitted by a satellite orbiting in space. It relayed the first message from outer space -- a Christmas message to the world from President Eisenhower.

COURIER, launched into orbit <sup>by the US Air Force</sup> on October 4, 1960, was an experimental research and development vehicle designed to explore the feasibility of a delayed repeater satellite at a 640-mile altitude. It demonstrated a capability of sending 68,000 words a minute and to receive and store the same volume simultaneously.